

High School Student Perceptions of Academic Success

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Introduction

- **What is Academic success?**
- ➤ The level at which students use certain skills to create and accomplish a set of goals that impact their educational outcomes (Gordon and Cui, 2014).
- What Factors contribute to academic success?
- ➤ Motivation (Thorsen et al., 2021)
- ➤ Conscientious personality (Poropat, 2009)
- ➤ Self-regulation (Annalakshmi, 2019)
- ➤ Work habits (Simpkins et al., 2020)

Research Gap

- Less research on how high school students perceive the factors that contribute to their academic success.
- Previous research has focused on perceptions of students entering or completing college.
- **❖** Lack of research on how the perspectives of high school students on what contributes to them being academically successful, can contribute to the development of interventions.

THE CATAMOUNT SCHOOL



Research Aim

- ❖ The purpose of this research will be to identify how high school students perceive factors contributing to their academic success within four areas:
 - > Resilience
 - > Social Emotional Learning
 - > School Climate
- > Student Engagement

Research Questions

- What are student perceptions on:
 - 1. Factors of resiliency that have impacted their academic success.
 - 2. Factors of social and emotional learning that have impacted their academic success.
 - 3. Factors of school climate that have impacted their academic success.
 - 4. Factors of student engagement that have impacted their academic success.

Research Procedures

- **♦** Data will be collected during Individual interviews at the end of the student's academic term.
 - ➤ Questions will include areas of resiliency, SEL, school climate, and student engagement and the impact they have had on the student's academic success during their time at TCS.
- **♦** A thematic analysis will be conducted to identify themes found within the data that contribute to academic success (Braun & Clarke, 2006).

Research Participants

- ❖ Participants chosen for this study are ninth grade students who had attended 6th through 8th grade at The Catamount School (TCS) and are currently attending the local high school or early college in the district.
- TCS is a lab school operated in conjunction between Western Carolina University and the local school system.
- Students who were not successful during elementary grades receive an individualized approach in opportunities for success at TCS.
- **♦ TCS** has no more than 75 students across 6th through 8th grade.

Implications for Research and Practice

- This study will help TCS identify student perceptions related to academic success at the high school level.
- ❖ This study will help schools identify important student variables when providing academic interventions and instructional support services within the NASP Practice Model.
- This study will help TCS better prepare their students as they are transitioning to high school.